538 rical ballads (dumy) which glorify and preserve the whole of the past of Ukraine, are deservedly famous.

533 The Ukrainian folk-song which has been handed down in many collections and manuscripts from the 16th century, enjoys a great reputation both at home and abroad. These songs were sung at Lithuanian and Polish courts (14th - 16th centuries) and before Tsars and boyars in Moscow down to the second half of the 18th century. They were admired in Turkey and Italy too, and found honorable mention as early as 1675 in Herbigny's collection "Religiosae Kijovienses Cryptae".

534 The Ukrainian accompanies his singing on many instruments: there are the "kobza" and the "bandura", stringed instruments of foreign origin, cymbals which are unknown to the Russians, bag-pipes ("duda"), a peculiar kind of flute ("svyril") and the mountain pipe ("trembita"); primitive instruments like the lyre
535 have also persisted. The dance plays a comparatively minor part. Besides the ceremonious dances ("kolo") there are round dances ("hopak", "kozatshok" and "kolomyjka"), and the old sword dance is found among the Hutsuly.

531 A richly developed folk-art is on the same level as the folk-poetry and music; it finds expression above all in national costumes and ornaments, in painted Easter eggs, embroidery, in the complicated weaving and wood-carving patterns and in bead-work, ceramics, furniture and household utensils.

291 The ornate costumes often show in their embroidery influen-
531 ces from the East, the South and the Balkans. Particular attention is paid to embroidery on shirts, while women's skirts ("plakhty") and men's coats are often magnificent works of art for which, according to the district, homespun linen and woollen stuffs are used. Embroidery patterns utilise geometric forms as well as conventional flowers and leaves.

● 352 Furniture consists mainly of benches, a carved table, painted
531 and inlaid chests ("skryni") and a carved pottery cupboard ("mysnyk"). The room is, in addition, decorated with paintings, embroidered towels and carpets; in Eastern Ukraine the stove is also painted.

among themselves. They can be divided into three well-defined tribes —the Lemki on the Slovak border, the Boiki in the centre, and the Huculs in the eastern tip of Ruthenia.

The most interesting tribe are the Huculs. They have preserved their tribal characteristics better than their kinsmen. Their standard of education is higher, and they are more conscious and proud of their national individuality. When the Hungarians invaded Ruthenia after the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia, the Huculs offered the stiffest resistance, and during the war they were the core of the partisan force fighting against the totalitarian powers. Like the other Ruthenian mountaineers, the Huculs are largely wood-cutters and raftsmen. But they are distinguished by their skill as carpenters and wood-carvers. This is clearly reflected in their mode of life. Their wooden cottages are neatly built and furnished and impress the visitor by their scrupulous cleanliness. Their tribal individuality and artistic skill find expression in the numerous carvings with which they like to decorate their unpainted houses.

The neighbouring Boiki have also, to some extent, preserved their pride in racial individuality, and their mode of life, though more primitive, has some interesting features. They are kind-hearted, sincere and hospitable, in spite of their poverty. Though less proud than the Huculs, they fly into a temper when crossed, and impulsive outspokenness is one of their traits. They live in cottages and huts which they like to paint in blue and brown, and this makes their exterior rather attractive. But the interior does not always live up to the façade. The better-off Boiki manage to live in fairly decent cottages with two or more rooms, but the huts of the poor often consist of one room only— a dark room with no chimney, one small window, and some roughly made furniture. Some have no bedsteads in the true sense of the word; along the whole wall of the room one may find a long "plank-bed" where the grown-ups sleep at the one end and the children at the other. When the children grow up they sleep on separate beds of the same kind. Unlike the Hucul houses, the Boiki huts have no wooden floors. The domestic animals often share the same room with their masters in winter, sleeping on the bare earth. For many families such a room is therefore a kitchen, living room, bedroom, hall and stable in one.

Much the same applies to the Lemki tribe who live partly on Slovak territory. They are the poorest Ruthenian tribe and their racial character has undergone a certain deterioration. Their standard of life is often appalling, the hygiene leaves much to be desired, and they have the largest number of illiterates, though some improvement has taken place under the Republic.

Mountainous Ruthenia is a country of traditional costumes. The